

the bill shows the degree to which the 2020 election is injecting itself into issues as seemingly obscure and regional as the recognition of a Native American tribe and its plans for a casino. Warren has been routinely criticized by Trump and others for claiming Native American heritage—though there's no evidence it secured her a post or a job.

But some opposition to the casino measure seems to be rooted in money as much as politics.

Several Trump-connected lobbying groups have been hired on behalf of Twin River Management Group, which owns a Rhode Island-based casino that would compete with Mashpee Wampanoag's casino if they get the greenlight from Congress.

One firm hired by Twin River is run by Trump adviser Matt Schlapp, who has, since January, been lobbying Congress and the White House on their behalf. Twin River has paid his firm, Cove Strategies, \$30,000 for its work so far this year.

An hour after Schlapp tweeted his opposition to the bill last Wednesday, President Trump himself tweeted his own call to kill the legislation—a move that effectively scuttled Republican support and stalled its progress on the House floor.

The legislation is expected to be up for a vote again on May 15. Without congressional action to enshrine their tribal rights, the casino deal in Taunton, Massachusetts will fall through.

Unlike Schlapp, APP doesn't appear to have a vested financial interest in the Mashpee Wampanoag issue. Its top donors over the past few years include major conservative funders such as the Mercer family, the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, Missouri roofing magnate David Humphreys, and Equinox Partners president Sean Fieler, according to financial records left unredacted on the website of Florida's secretary of state.

None of those funders appear to have an immediate interest in the construction of a new Massachusetts casino. Instead, APP's opposition appears rooted entirely in Warren's perceived involvement in the issue—and her ongoing campaign for the White House.

The legislation pulled from the House floor last week, Schweppe wrote, "amounted to a taxpayer bailout for a corrupt casino conglomerate, which wouldn't stand to benefit American families but would stand to benefit Senator Liz Warren, one of the leading Democratic candidates for President."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. DUFFY. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, May 16, 2019 I missed the following vote and was not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 211. On Friday, May 17, 2019 I missed the following votes and was not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 215; YEA on Roll Call No. 216; and NAY on Roll Call 217.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF JJ BABBITT

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Elkhart instrument manufacturer jj Babbitt Company, Inc., and to join them in celebrating 100 years of success.

In 1919, Jesse James Babbitt produced the first of many beautifully crafted mouthpieces in his garage in northern Indiana before launching a family business that would last for generations. A century later, jj Babbitt has now grown to help musicians at every level deliver great music and dazzling performances by producing the industry's finest mouthpieces for clarinet and saxophone.

From the beginning, the company has focused on unique craftsmanship and a commitment to innovation to produce the high-quality mouthpieces they have made for 100 years. Not much has changed about the Babbitt business model or vision, and even some of the original machines from the 1930s remain at the heart of production.

Elkhart, Indiana, is the Band Instrument Capital of the World, and as a community we are grateful to have this company as a leader and pioneer to inspire future generations of instrument manufacturers to carry on the legacy. It is an honor to represent the hardworking employees of the jj Babbitt Company, who continue to play such a vital role in delivering the perfect mouthpieces for musicians.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of 2nd District Hoosiers, I want to thank everyone at jj Babbitt for an incredible 100 years, and I look forward to many more incredible years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I was absent from votes on 5/16/2019 as I was with my family at my daughter's college graduation. Had I been present, I would have voted on the following roll call votes in the manner recorded below: "yea" on Roll Call No. 210; "nay" on Roll Call No. 211; "nay" on Roll Call No. 212; "yea" on Roll Call No. 213; "nay" on Roll Call No. 214; "nay" on Roll Call No. 215; "yea" on Roll Call No. 216; and "nay" on Roll Call No. 217.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPE ABILITIES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of Cape Abilities, a treasured organization that has touched countless lives through its tireless advocacy for individuals with disabilities in Massachusetts.

First founded in 1968 as Nauset Workshop, Cape Abilities has steadily grown into a pillar of the Cape Cod community. Over the past 50 years they have provided disabled individuals with high quality services and opportunities to have meaningful access to employment, housing, community support, counseling, education, and more.

Every year Cape Abilities organizes the Harbor Walk, a 2.2 mile walk along the Hyannis Harbor that brings together staff, participants, partners, and supporters to help raise funds and awareness for the important work that Cape Abilities does. This year's walk is particularly meaningful, as it will be held in celebration of the more than 50 years of service that Cape Abilities has provided since its inception. By treating the people it serves with dignity and respect, the positive impact that Cape Abilities has had in the Cape Cod community is unparalleled.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the 50th anniversary of Cape Abilities and offer my sincere gratitude for their dedication to bettering their community. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking them for their service and wishing them all the best in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I missed votes on Friday May 17, 2019 due to a family commitment. I took my oldest son on a college visit. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 215; YEA on Roll Call No. 216; and NAY on Roll Call No. 217.

HOUSE PASSAGE OF THE EQUALITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to note the House's passage of the Equality Act (H.R. 5), to afford nationwide protection against discrimination for LGBTQ people in employment, housing, credit, education, public service and spaces, federally funded programs and federal jury service. Equality for all Americans has long been one of my signature issues, but my work for equal treatment for the LGBTQ community has had to have an additional dimension. Republicans have often tried to use the District of Columbia's unequal status as a weapon against the LGBTQ community. Opponents of equality for the LGBTQ community have consistently targeted the District to pass their discriminatory agenda. I have fought them off at every turn, beginning with protecting D.C.'s domestic partnerships law, ahead of its time in 1992, defending the District's marriage equality and same-sex adoptions laws, and protecting D.C.'s law that prohibits religiously affiliated schools from denying LGBTQ students access to services and facilities. In addition, I recently reintroduced bills to protect LGBTQ jurors from discrimination in local D.C. courts, action only Congress

can take because of the requirements of the Home Rule Act, and to end the unique applicability of the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 to the District.

The Equality Act is uniquely comprehensive. Historically, when Congress has passed civil rights legislation, it typically has done so by category, whether in employment, or housing, or the rest. However, the Equality Act, encompassing all forms of typical discrimination, sends a special message. It is too late for anything except legislation that takes on discrimination against our LGBTQ community once and for all.

The Equality Act also fills a large space I have tried to fill ever since being elected to Congress. My work for the LGBTQ community has come naturally. As a lifelong fighter for equal rights, I have always seen congressional failure to address discrimination against the LGBTQ community as no different from congressional failure to bar segregation in the public schools I attended as a child in the District, or to address discrimination in voting rights and public accommodations I went to Mississippi to fight as a student in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. The Equality Act stands for the impossibility of parsing discrimination. The history of discrimination in the United States teaches that all bigotry is unacceptable.

REAFFIRMING AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF INTERIOR TO TAKE LAND INTO TRUST FOR INDIAN TRIBES

SPEECH OF

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following article from The Washington Examiner regarding consideration of H.R. 375.

[From The Washington Examiner, May 13, 2019]

HOUSE DEMOCRATS RESCHEDULE VOTES ON TRIBAL BILLS PULLED AFTER TRUMP TWEET
(by Naomi Lim)

House Democrats have rescheduled votes on two Native American tribal bills this week after they were yanked from the floor at the last minute following pressure from President Trump.

Democratic leadership has set a vote for Wednesday on H.R. 312, legislation co-sponsored by Rep. William Keating, D-Mass., maintaining the status of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe reservation in the Bay State.

A second proposal, H.R. 375, introduced by Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla., would reaffirm Interior Secretary David Bernhardt's authority to take land into trust on behalf of Indian tribes. That measure is also due to be considered Wednesday, but under a streamlined process requiring two-thirds support in the House. As such, it needs the backing of House Republicans.

"Both of the bills pulled from the floor of the House, H.R. 375 and H.R. 312, are important to Indian Country," Cole told the Washington Examiner in a statement on Monday. "I support both of the bills and look forward to working with my Republican and Democratic colleagues to pass them on the floor. I believe we will be successful in doing so."

But GOP lawmakers like Western Caucus Chairman Paul Gosar, R-Ariz., have said they will not help the legislation pass the chamber. A spokeswoman for Gosar told the Washington Examiner on Monday her boss, who sits on the House Natural Resources Committee with Cole, was "strongly opposed" to the proposals and would vote against them "in their current form."

"Gosar has been leading the charge against these bills since they were first brought up in Natural Resources Committee. He offered two amendments to both bills in committee—both failed," the spokeswoman said.

H.R. 312 and H.R. 375 were originally scheduled for votes on May 8, but were yanked after Trump tweeted that they would be "unfair" to Native Americans.

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe wants to build a \$1 billion casino on its land, but the deal has been delayed by the Interior Department and Rhode Island lawmakers worried the development will undercut profits generated by its own casino industry.

The opposition has resulted in the Massachusetts congressional delegation, including Democratic 2020 presidential candidate Sen. Elizabeth Warren, to push for the measure so the tribe can have full control of the reservation. Matt Schlapp, American Conservative Union chairman and husband of White House communications director Mercedes Schlapp, additionally runs a firm that lobbied against the casino.

"Republicans shouldn't vote for H.R. 312, a special interest casino Bill, backed by Elizabeth (Pocahontas) Warren," Trump tweeted last Wednesday. "It is unfair and doesn't treat Native Americans equally!"

Schlapp did not immediately respond to request for comment.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOUSE PASSAGE OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of House passage of the 19th amendment to the United States Constitution—prohibiting the government from denying the right to vote to citizens on the basis of sex.

In the year of 1893, the first attempt to organize the Women's Suffrage Movement in the state of Texas took place in Dallas, with the formation of The Texas Equal Rights Association.

Twenty-six years later Texas became the first state in the south to ratify the 19th amendment. From raising families, to organizing political movements, to fighting over seas, our country could not thrive without the influence of so many strong and determined women.

It is with great admiration that I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the pioneering efforts of women 100 years ago that are still shaping our nation today.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE HONORABLE JOHN JAMES CONYERS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Honorable John J. Conyers, who celebrated his 90th birthday on May 16th.

Mr. Conyers is a distinguished public servant who represented the people of Michigan in the U.S. House of Representatives for 52 years. During his tenure, he held a number of reputable positions, including Chairman of the House Oversight Committee, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and the 44th Dean of the House of Representatives. Mr. Conyers was an effective legislator who was known among the Halls of Congress as champion of justice and judiciary issues.

As the longest-serving African-American member of Congress, Mr. Conyers was a trailblazer for civil rights during his time in Congress and is credited as one of the 13 original founders of the Congressional Black Caucus. He was the first to introduce a bill calling for the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. to be recognized as a national holiday dedicated to his life and legacy.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Conyers as he celebrates this momentous achievement. I also wish him many more happy birthdays in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted: "nay" on Roll Call No. 210; "yea" on Roll Call No. 211; "yea" on Roll Call No. 212; "nay" on Roll Call No. 213; "yea" on Roll Call No. 214; "yea" on Roll Call No. 215; "nay" on Roll Call No. 216; and "yea" on Roll Call No. 217.

THE HONORABLE DAMON JEROME KEITH

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, as the representative of the 30th District of Texas, I'd like to recognize the passing of The Honorable Damon Jerome Keith, Senior Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Judge Damon J. Keith, one of the nation's longest-serving federal judges, was a tireless champion of civil rights and civil liberties. Born in Detroit in 1922, Judge Keith was the grandson of enslaved people. He went on to become the sixth African American in U.S. history to serve on the federal court of appeals. During his time on the bench, he made a series of landmark decisions that changed the social and legal landscape of the country.